

OB Navigation Program

**An Innovative Approach to Improving
Outcomes and Decreasing Disparities
Among High-Risk Patients**

**Project: 2.9.1 – 133355104.2.4_OB Patient
Navigation Services**

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Project Sponsor(s): Dr. Jennifer Small

OB Navigation

Improving access to pre- and postnatal care through comprehensive, effective patient navigation through the Harris Health System and throughout a woman's pregnancy, with a focus on high-risk mothers to improve birth outcomes.

[OB Navigation Program Video](#)

OB Navigation

Need:

- Harris County pre-term birth (PTB) rate in 2011 was 12.9%, ranging up to 19.8% in certain zip codes/areas
- Lack of dedicated navigation efforts for obstetric population at Harris Health
- Lack of dedicated resources to manage and coordinate prenatal care among high-risk patients

Intervention Site:

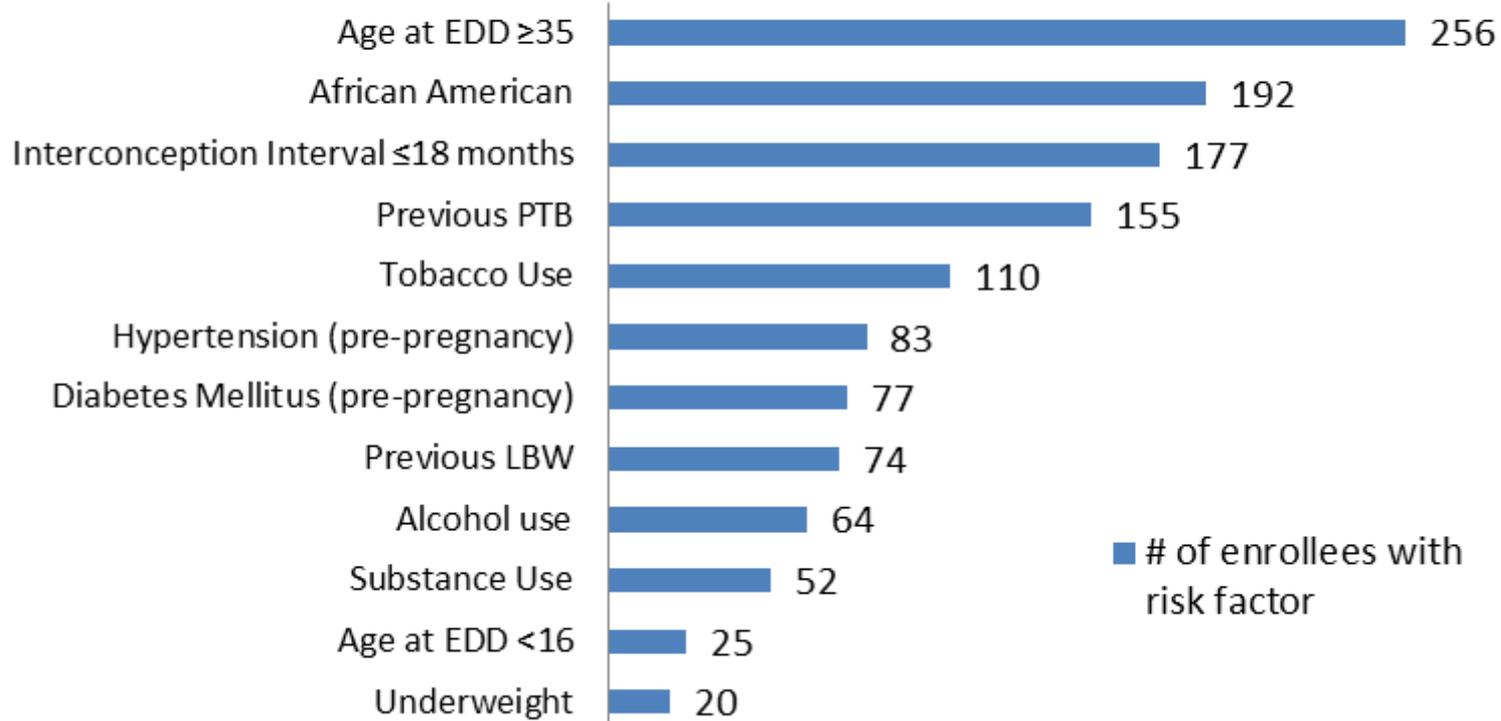
Harris Health System, Harris County

- Harris Health clinics strategically located in medically underserved areas that coincide with high rates of preterm births

Risk Factor Prevalence (DY4 – YTD)

Participant Risk Factor Prevalence (DY4 - YTD)

Participants must have ≥ 1 risk factor in order to enroll



Program Outcomes

Successes

- 1,209 patients enrolled in OB Navigation program (DY4 YTD 8/14/15)
- Streamlined process for patients discharged from the EC with a pregnancy diagnosis to ensure continuity or initiation of prenatal care
- High compliance rate with prenatal visits; decreased no-show rate

Challenges

- Patient risk factors such as low education level, low health literacy, financial needs, etc. remain a significant challenge in ensuring compliance with clinical recommendations
- During times when short staffed or emergencies arise, the OB Navigator is pulled to assist with staff nurse duties deferring navigator services

Next Steps

- Sharing program outcomes with other obstetric care providers
- Developing program sustainability plan to propose to executive leadership